

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

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NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AF-06 EA-06 EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5789 IMMEDIATE

INFO USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 5409

TAGS: PFOR, PE, CI

SUB: UNHRC INVESTIGATIVE TRIP TO CHILE

SUMMARY: UNHRC WORKING GROUP CHAIRMAN, NOW IN LIMA, URGENTLY ARRANGED

MEETING TODAY WITH EMBOFFS TO DISCUSS PRESIDENT PINOCHET'S SUDDEN JULY 4 DENIAL FOR GROUP TO ENTER CHILE FOR STUDY OF HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION. SIMILAR APPROACH WAS ALSO MADE TO FRG AMBASSADOR AND ATTEMPT WAS MADE TO CONTACT UK AMBASSADOR THIS REGARD. UNHRC WORKING GROUP, WHICH IS NOW ASSEMBLING IN LIMA, HAD PLANNED TO TRAVEL TO TO SANTIAGO ON JULY 10 WORKING GROUP CHAIRMAN ALLANA STATES HE HAS URGED GOC TO RECONSIDER DECISION AND SAYS HE WILL WAIT FOR A REPLY UNTIL THE EVENING OF JULY 8. ALLANA REQUESTS THAT USG USE ITS GOOD OFFICES TO GET THE INVITATION REINSTATED. END SUMMARY.

1. ON JULY 5 DCM AND EMBOFF MET WITH UNHRC WORKING GROUP CHAIRMAN G. ALLANA AND UNHRC DIVISION DIRECTOR MARC SCHREIBER AT ALLANA'S REQUEST TO DISCUSS PRESIDENT PINOCHET'S SUDDEN CANCELLATION OF THE UNHRC INVESTIGATIVE TEAM'S VISIT TO CHILE.

2. THE UNHRC TEAM HAD PLANNED TO MEET IN LIMA JULY 6-9 BEFORE
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PROCEEDING TO SANTIAGO JULY 10. WHEN ALLAN ARRIVED AT THE LIMA

AIRPORT JULY 4, HE WAS MET BY CHILEAN AMBASSADOR ERRAZURIZ AND INFORMED OF PINOCHET'S DECISION. (ALLANA UNDERSTANDS SEC GEN WALDHEIM'S OFFICE WAS INFORMED EARLIER BY CHILEAN UN AMBASSADOR HUERTA.) ERRAZURIZ ASKED ALLANA NOT TO SPEAK TO THE PRESS AND ALLANA AGREED; LATTER WAS SUBSEQUENTLY SURPRISED WHEN PINOCHET ANNOUNCED THE CANCELLATION TO THE PRESS IN CHILE. ALLANA, THROUGH ERRAZURIZ, IS URGING PINOCHET TO RECONSIDER HIS DECISION AND SAID HE WOULD WAIT FOR A REPLY IN LIMA UNTIL THE EVENING OF JULY 8.

3. ALLANA NOW REQUESTS THAT THE USG USE ITS GOOD OFFICES TO PERSUADE CHILE TO REINSTATE THE INVITATION SO THAT THE TRIP CAN GO FORWARD AS PLANNED. ALLANA ARGUES THAT THE UNHRC INVESTIGATIVE TRIP IS OF VITAL IMPORTANCE NOT ONLY TO THE UN BUT IN PARTICULAR TO CHILE AS WELL. CHILE'S IMAGE, HE SAYS, WOULD SURELY BE DAMAGED IF, HAVING AGREED TO THE TRIP, IT NOW CANCELS OUT. ALSO, THE UNHRC HAS ALREADY BEGUN ITS INVESTIGATION. IF UNABLE TO MAKE THE TRIP, THE TEAM WILL HAVE TO

BASE ITS REPORT SOLELY OR LARGELY ON EVIDENCE GATHERED OUTSIDE CHILE, WHICH IS BOUND TO BE BIASED AND GENERALLY UNFAVORABLE.

4. ALLANA REPEATEDLY STRESSED THE HIGH QUALITY AND LACK OF BIAS OF THE UNHRC TEAM MEMBERS. (NOTE: ALLANA SAID HE HAD PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED THIS CHILE VISIT WITH USG REPRESENTATIVES PHILLIP HOFFMAN AND LEONARD GARMET.)

5. AS EMBOFFS LEFT ALLANA'S HOTEL ROOM, THEY MET FRG AMBASSADOR BERGER, WHO HAD EVIDENTLY BEEN CALLED IN TO DISCUSS THE SAME SUBJECT. DCM LATER ASCERTAINED THAT SAME APPROACH HAD BEEN MADE TO AMBASSADOR BERGER AND THAT ALLANA WAS ALSO TRYING TO TALK TO UK AMBASSADOR (NO DOUBT FOR THE SAME PURPOSE).

6. DCM SAID HE HAD NOTED PINOCHET STATEMENT IN TODAY'S LIMA PRESS, BUT OFFERED NO COMMENT WITH RESPECT TO ALLANA'S PRESENTATION OR TO ANY POSSIBLE USG RESPONSE. ONLY RESPONSE GIVEN WAS THAT EMBASSY

WOULD PROMPTLY INFORM DEPARTMENT OF ALLANA'S APPROACH AND WOULD TRANSMIT ANY RESPONSE WE MAY RECEIVE FROM WASHINGTON TO HIM.
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DEAN

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